

Message Text

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FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 104770 ACTION GENEVA USUN NEW YORK LONDON
BONN TOKYO MOSCOW IAEA VIENNA TEL AVIV HEW DELHI ISLAMABAD
PEKING ROME CANBERRA WELLINGTON CAIRO PRETORIA NATO SANTIAGO
MEXICO BUENOS AIRES BRASILIA PARIS TEHRAN OTTAWA COLOMBO
KABUL THE HAGUE BRUSSELS STOCKHOLM TAIPEI JAKARTA RANGOON
DACCA KATHMANDU PORT LOUIS DAR ES SALAAM HONG KONG JERUSALEM
20 MAY 1974. QUOTE:

S E C R E T STATE 104770

ZFF4 JERUSALEM ONLY

TOSEC 826

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MCAP, IN

SUBJECT: US POSITION ON INDIAN NUCLEAR TEST

1. INDIA'S NUCLEAR EXPLOSION RAISES QUESTIONS REGARDING
LONG-TERM IMPACT ON NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION AND GLOBAL AND
REGIONAL STABILITY. THESE QUESTIONS ARE UNDER ACTIVE STUDY
IN THE DEPARTMENT AND OTHER AGENCIES CONCERNED.

2. AMONG POTENTIAL ARMS CONTROL FACTORS ARE: (A) JAPAN'S
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PENDING RATIFICATION OF THE NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION TREATY

(NPT); (B) COMPLETION OF NPT RATIFICATION PROCESS BY WEST EUROPEAN NON NUCLEAR STATES, OF WHICH THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AND ITALY ARE ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT; (C) PRESSURES ON A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES TO BEGIN PROGRAMS FOR DEVELOPING NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVES FOR ESSENTIALLY MILITARY AND POLITICAL PURPOSES UNDER THE GUISE OF PEACEFUL USES; (D) LONG-TERM US SECURITY INTERESTS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR NUCLEAR ARMS CONTROL.

3. IN SOUTH ASIA, THE IMMEDIATE IMPLICATIONS FOR REGIONAL STABILITY RELATE TO PAKISTAN. INDIA ALREADY HAS OVERWHELMING SUPERIORITY OVER PAKISTAN, EVEN WITHOUT A NUCLEAR WEAPONS CAPABILITY; NONETHELESS, PAKISTANI INSECURITY WILL DEEPEN. THE INDIAN TEST MAY THUS HAVE DAMAGING IMPLICATIONS FOR THE ENCOURAGING TREND TOWARD POLITICAL ACCOMMODATION IN SOUTH ASIA. PAKISTAN'S REACTION WILL IN THE SHORT RANGE INHIBIT ITS FLEXIBILITY TOWARD INDIA, BUT WE HOPE BHUTTO WILL REMAIN COMMITTED TO NORMALIZATION WITH INDIA. OUR OWN INTEREST IN DEVELOPING A BETTER BASIS FOR OUR BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP WITH INDIA REMAINS.

4. ADDRESSEES SHOULD RESPOND TO REQUESTS FOR REACTION TO THE INDIAN TEST IN A LOW-KEY MANNER, DRAWING PRIMARILY ON THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY AND USED BY THE DEPARTMENT: QUOTE THE UNITED STATES HAS ALWAYS BEEN AGAINST NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION FOR THE ADVERSE IMPACT IT WILL HAVE ON WORLD STABILITY. THAT REMAINS OUR POSITION. UNQUOTE IN ADDITION, ADDRESSEES MAY ALSO DRAW AT THEIR DISCRETION ON FOREGOING PARAGRAPHS IN RESPONSE TO OFFICIAL QUERIES AND REQUESTS FOR COMMENTS. ADDRESSEES SHOULD NOT, HOWEVER, TAKE INITIATIVE IN RAISING THESE QUESTIONS. WE ARE NOT, NOR DO WE WISH TO APPEAR TO BE ORGANIZING A WORLDWIDE CAMPAIGN AGAINST INDIA. NEITHER, HOWEVER, DO WE WISH TO GIVE THE IMPRESSION OF US ACQUIESCENCE IN AN INDIAN NUCLEAR TESTING PROGRAM.

5. FOR AMB. MARTIN, US CCD DEL, GENEVA: YOU SHOULD NOT GO BEYOND PUBLIC POSITION QUOTED ABOVE IN RESPONDING IN CCD SESSIONS TO COMMENTS FROM OTHERS ABOUT INDIA'S TEST OR TO INQUIRIES ABOUT THE US REACTION THERETO. HOWEVER,
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YOU MAY DRAW ON FOREGOING PARAGRAPHS IN PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS IN RESPONSE TO QUERIES AND REQUESTS FOR COMMENTS. IF YOUR JAPANESE COLLEAGUE ASKS FOR YOUR REACTION, YOU SHOULD OBSERVE THAT WE HAVE NOTED THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT'S REACTION AND HOPE THAT INDIA'S ACTION WILL NOT ADVERSELY AFFECT JAPANESE RATIFICATION OF THE NPT, WHICH WE CONTINUE TO HOPE WILL BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO THE NPT REVIEW CONFERENCE IN MAY 1975.

6. THE SECRETARY EMPHASIZES THAT THE GUIDANCE IN THIS MESSAGE IS TO BE USED ONLY IN RESPONSE TO INQUIRIES AND NOT TO STIMULATE OR SOLICIT THEM.

UNQUOTE RUSH

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